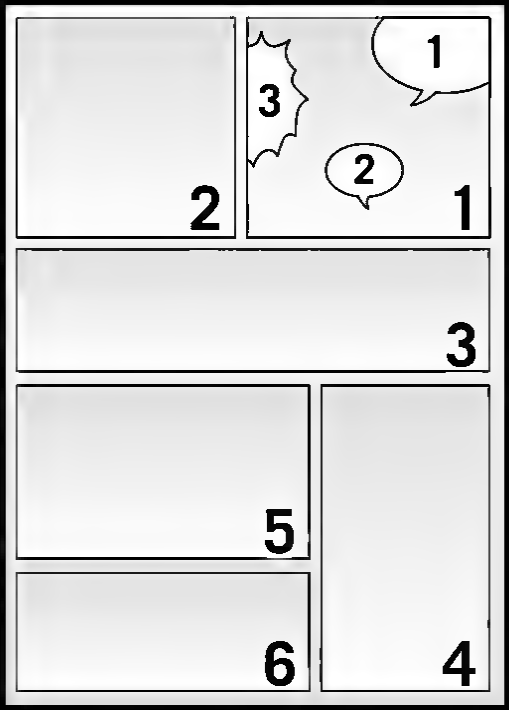
STORY BY: JUSTIN JONES
ILLUSTRATED BY: NIKKI BERNADEZ



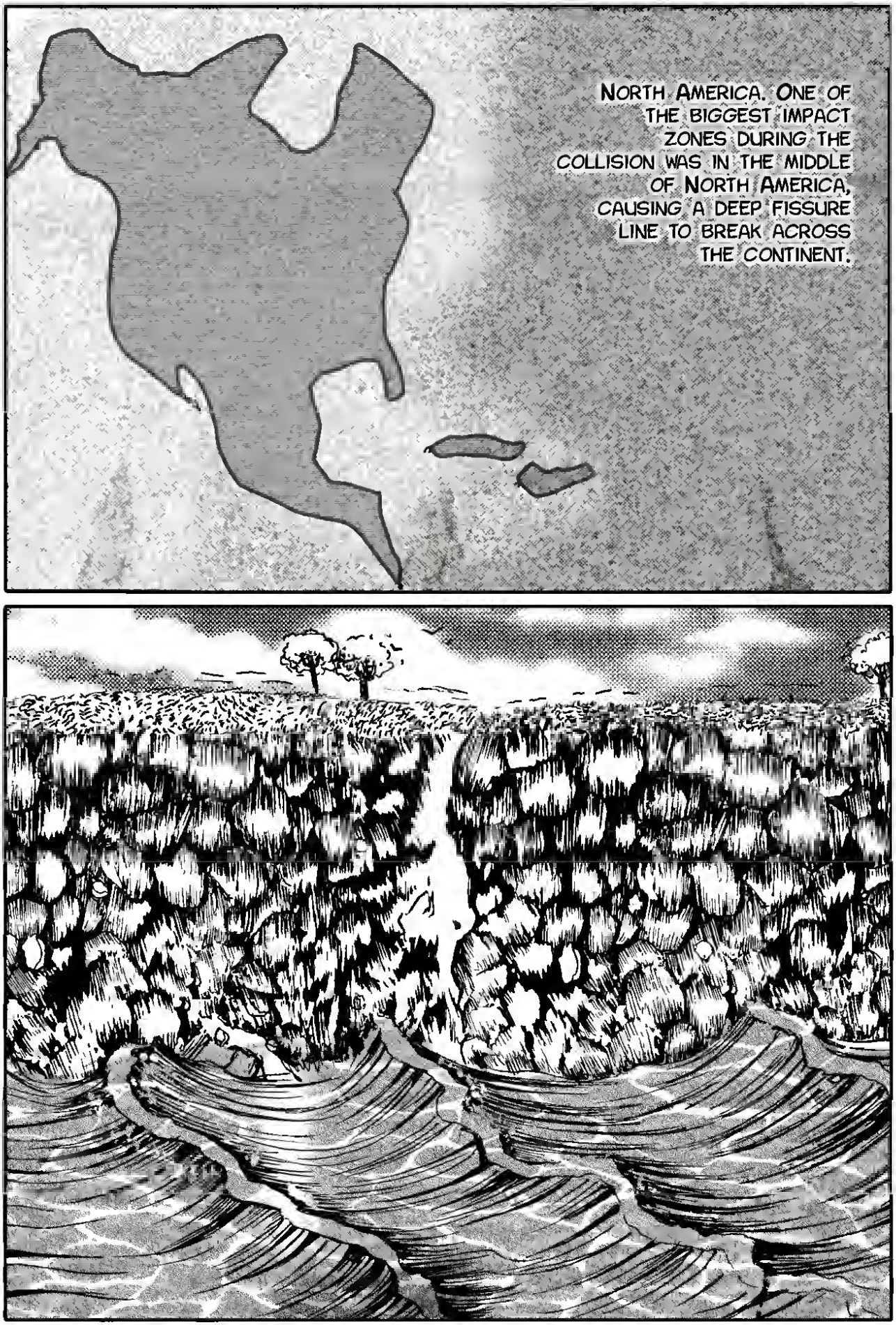
How to Read Manga

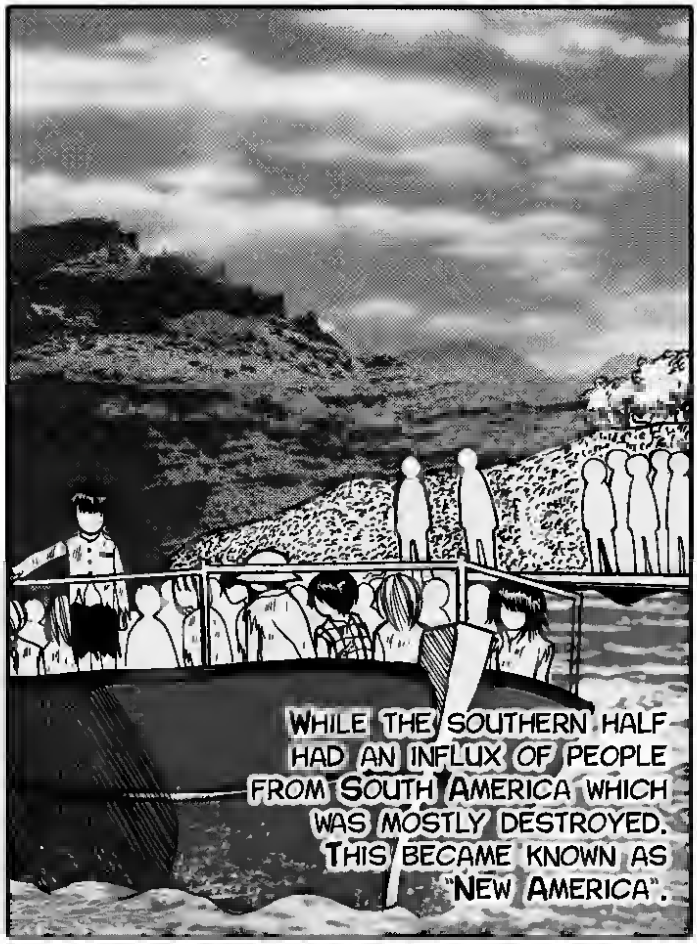
Mahga reads from right to left

1. Start in the upper-right corher of the upper-right pahel. Read the pahel from right to left.

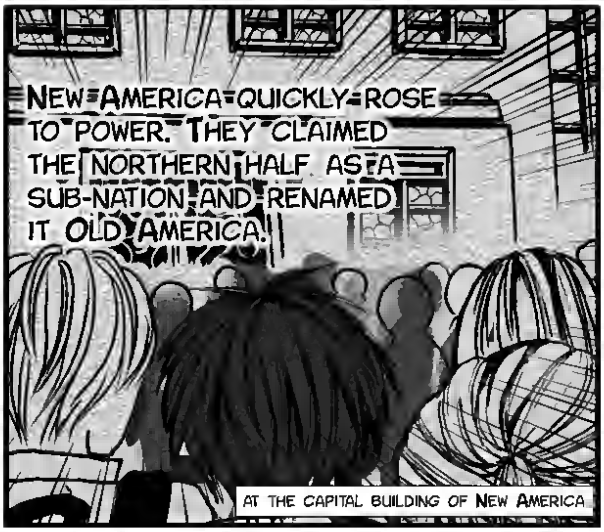
2. Repeat the process in the panel to the immediate left.

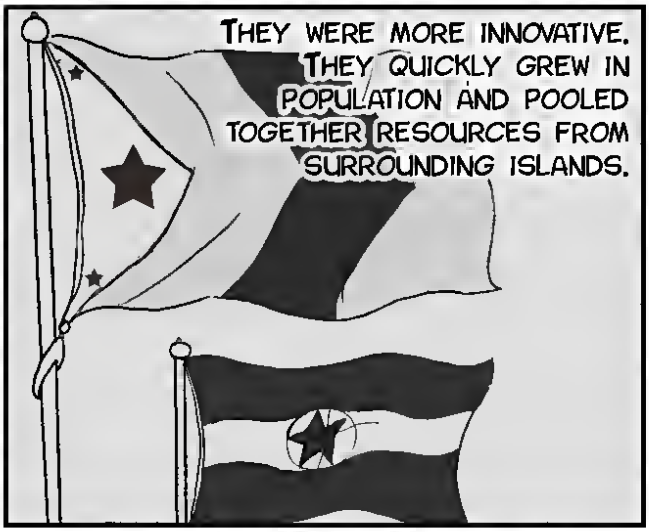
3. After the fihal pahel oh the left move down the page ahd repeat starting with the first right panel


NORTH AMERICA. ONE OF THE BIGGEST IMPACT ZONES DURING THE COLLISION WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF NORTH AMERICA, CAUSING A DEEP FISSURE LINE TO BREAK ACROSS THE CONTINENT.


WHILE THE SOUTHERN HALF HAD AN INFLUX OF PEOPLE FROM SOUTH AMERICA WHICH WAS MOSTLY DESTROYED. THIS BECAME KNOWN AS "NEW AMERICA".

THE MORE NORTHERN HALF HAD THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION AND TRIED TO CONTINUE ON WITH TRADITIONAL VALUES AND METHODS.


NEW AMERICA QUICKLY ROSE TO POWER. THEY CLAIMED THE NORTHERN HALF AS A SUB-NATION AND RENAMED IT OLD AMERICA!
AT THE CAPITAL BUILDING OF NEW AMERICA


THEY WERE MORE INNOVATIVE. THEY QUICKLY GREW IN POPULATION AND POOLED TOGETHER RESOURCES FROM SURROUNDING ISLANDS.

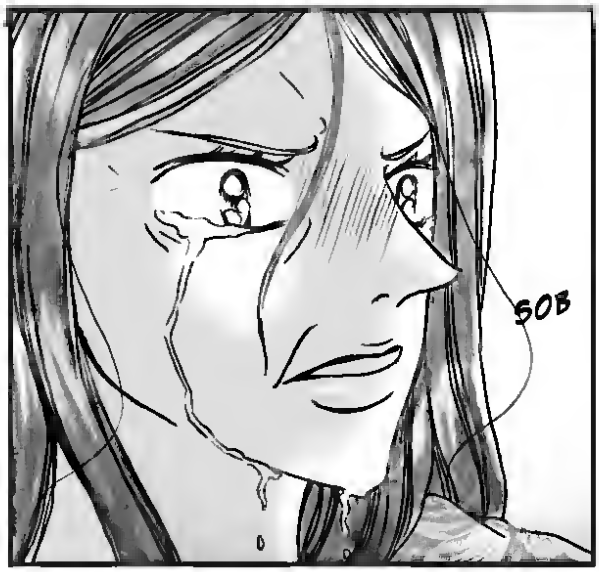
NEW AMERICA QUELLED ANY RESISTANCE THAT TOOK PLACE.
POLICE
POLICE
POLICE

SOON, THE DECADES OF OPPRESSION BECAME THE BACKSTORY OF OLD AMERICA.
THE CARRIER ACCIDENTALLY STRAYED INTO A RED ZONE WHILE ON IT'S REGULAR ROUTE HARVESTING TERRAGEL.
THERE WERE NO SURVIVORS.
SEVERAL DEAD IN CARRIER ACCIDENT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
HUFF
PASH
HUFF

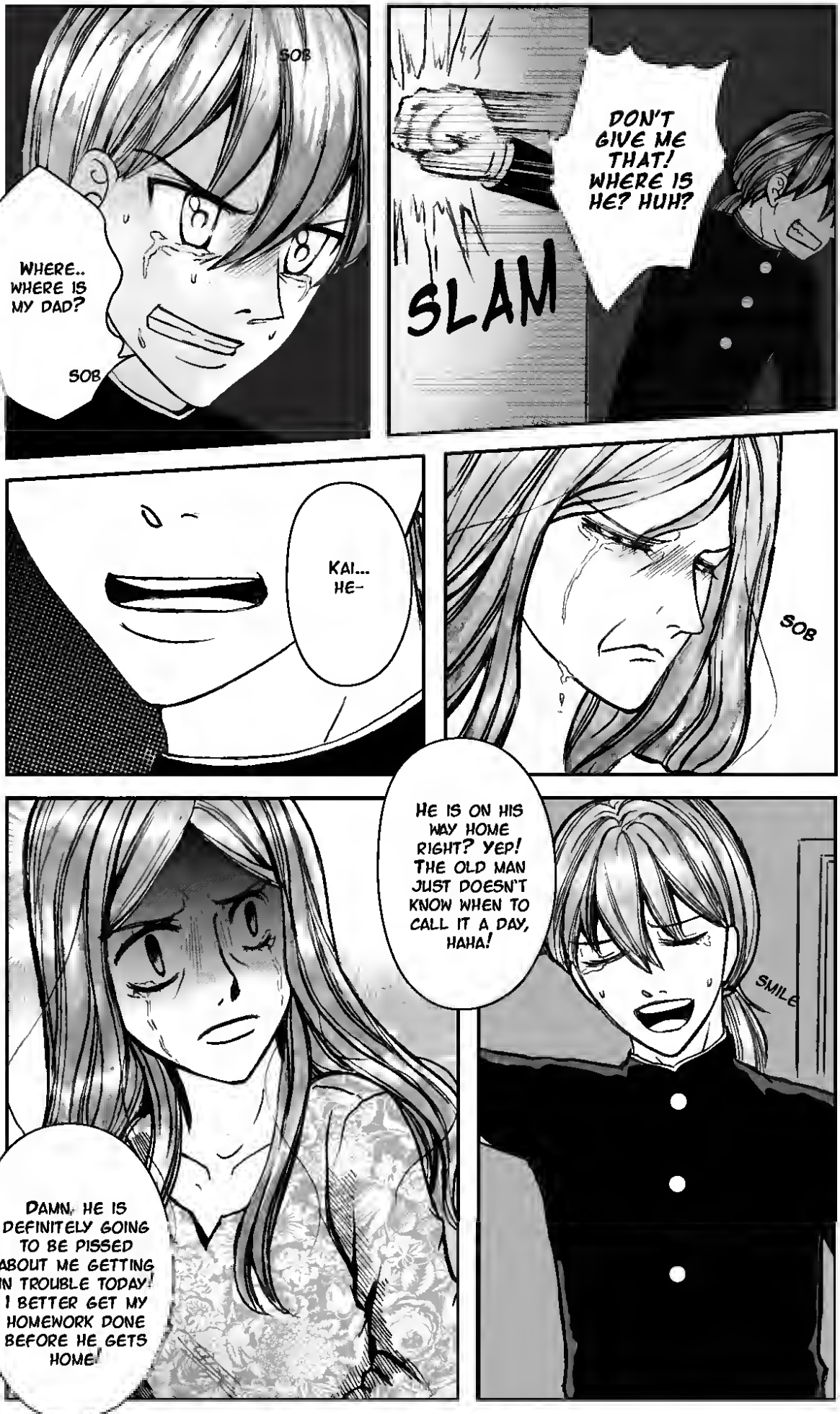
THESE BRAVE MEN WILL BE MISSED. SOME OF OUR BRIGHTEST HARD WORKING CITIZENS
AND SEVERAL OLD AMERICAN EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED DEAD ON IMPACT.

SLAM
HUFF
HUFF

WHISPER
KAI..
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

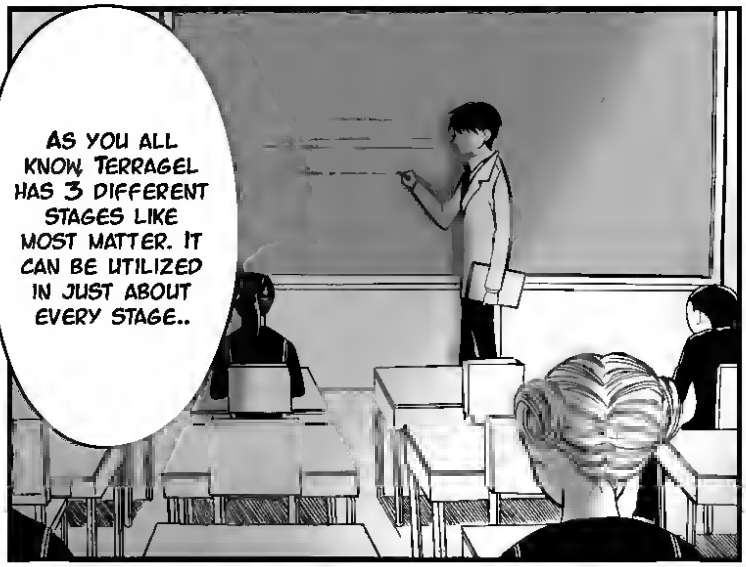

SOB

MOM.


SOB
WHERE.. WHERE IS MY DAD?
SOB
DON'T GIVE ME THAT! WHERE IS HE? HUH?
SLAM
KAI... HE-
SOB
HE IS ON HIS WAY HOME RIGHT? YEP! THE OLD MAN JUST DOESN'T KNOW WHEN TO CALL IT A DAY, HAHA!
SMILE
DAMN, HE IS DEFINITELY GOING TO BE PISSED ABOUT ME GETTING IN TROUBLE TODAY! I BETTER GET MY HOMEWORK DONE BEFORE HE GETS HOME.

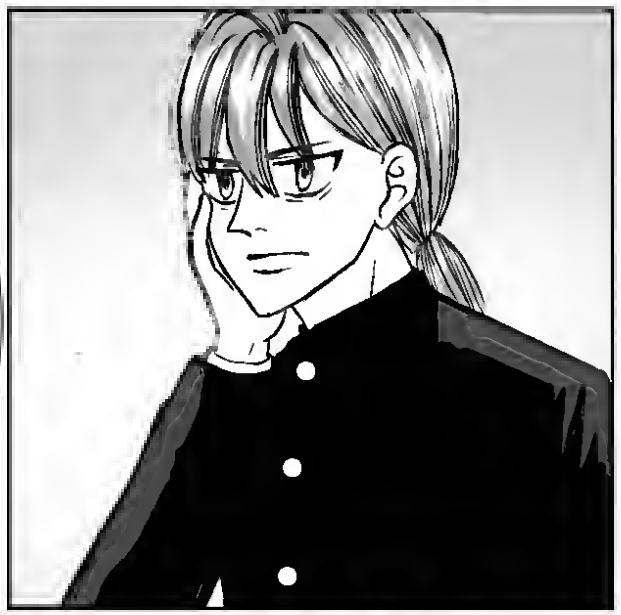
MOM, COME ON. I GOTTA GO GET MY HOMEWORK DONE. MOM, COME ON.
GRIP
GRAB
HE'S... HE'S NOT COMING HOME, SWEETIE..
MOM, MY H-HOMEWORK I GOTTA I GOTTA-
DRIP
DRIP
KAI!
PSSH. COME ON. OF COURSE HE'S COMING HOME! LIKE HE ALWAYS DOES! ANY SECOND HE'LL WALK THROUGH THAT DOOR AND SAY-

PLEASE.. DON'T DO THIS.
SOB
SOB
FALL
DAMN IT!!
THUD


AS YOU ALL KNOW, TERRAGEL HAS 3 DIFFERENT STAGES LIKE MOST MATTER. IT CAN BE UTILIZED IN JUST ABOUT EVERY STAGE..

AHHHHHHH!

WHY AM I EVEN HERE?



I JUST...

mute
Remembering the Brave New America Employees Lost.

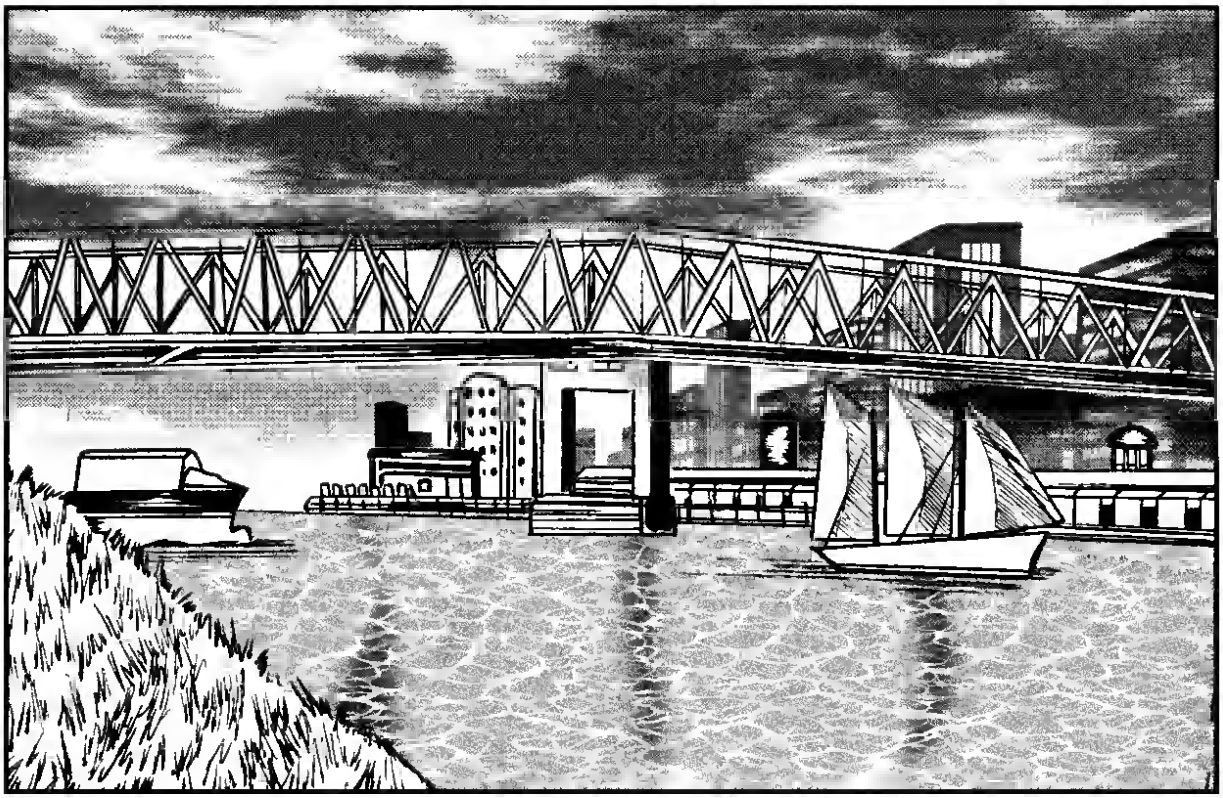
HOW MUCH? HOW MUCH MORE MUST WE SUFFER?
SWELL
WHERE'S OLE SICKY AT TODAY? I OWE HIM FOR YESTERDAY.
SLAM!!
HEY DIPSHIT, I'M TALKING TO YOU.
HAVE YOU GUYS SEEN RICARDO TODAY?
YOU DIDN'T HEAR? HIS DAD WAS ON THE CARRIER THAT EXPLODED
PISSED
WHAT EVER!

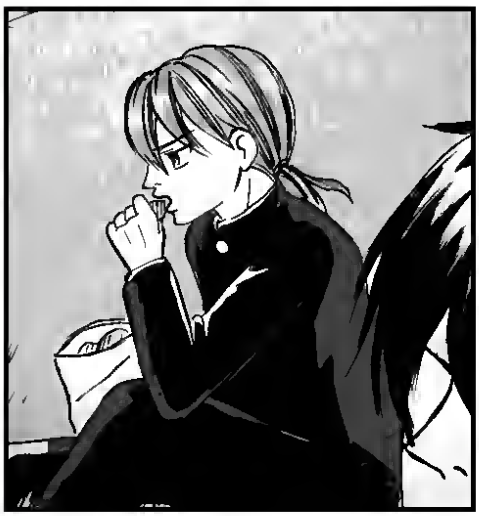
TCH. MY DAD ALWAYS WARNED HIM ABOUT WORKING SO CLOSE WITH THOSE MONKEYS. THEY WERE BOUND TO FUCK UP AS USUAL.
HE WOULD ALWAYS BUY US PIZZA TO WATCH THE DEAD COUNT... THIS SUCKS
YEAH. NO KIDDING.
NO WAY...MR. SEKEY WAS AWESOME.
SLAM!
HUH?
A LITTLE FAR MAN.

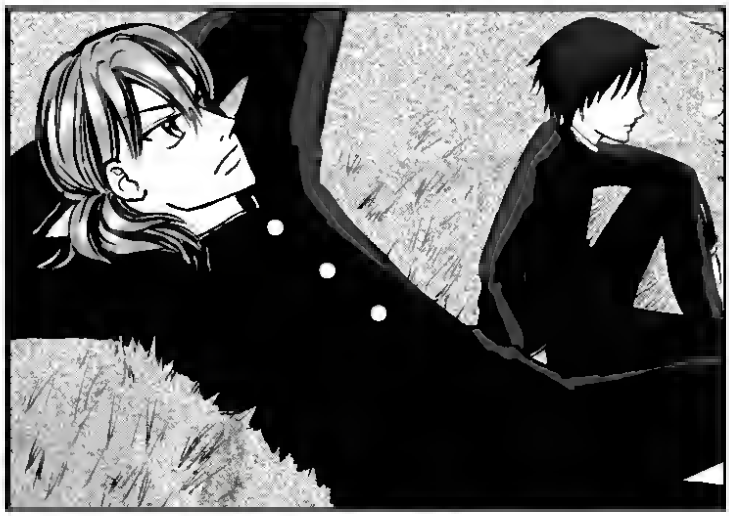
WHAT'S THIS PRESSURE I'M FEELING..
WHAT THE-?! HOW DID HE CLOSE THAT DISTANCE SO FAST? AND...
!!
GRAB
NOAH?

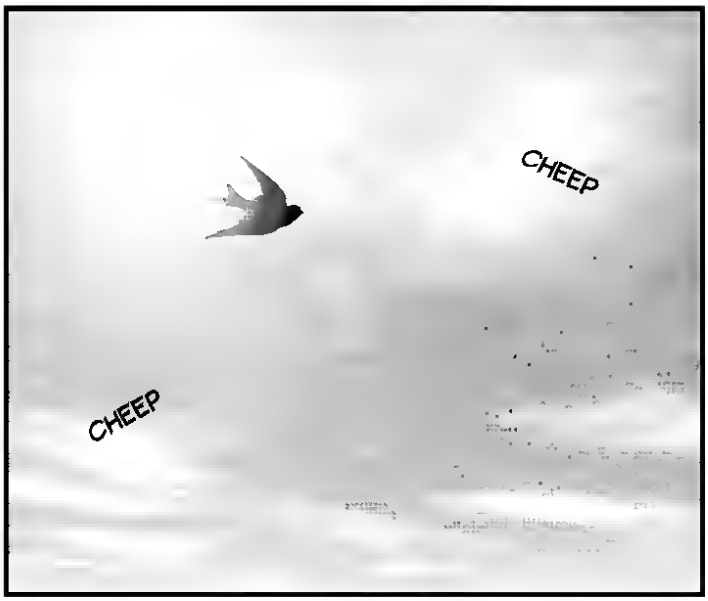
ARE YOU OK MAN??
...
KAI, WE ARE BETTER THAN STOOPING TO THEIR LEVEL REMEMBER?
WOULD YOUR DAD WANT THIS THOUGH?
WELL MAYBE I'M NOT! MAYBE I'M JUST A SCUM THAT WANTS TO PUNCH SOMEONE IN THE FACE RIGHT NOW

AGAIN?
GULP
ARE YOU BOYS OVER HERE FIGHTING?
HUH?
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
NO MA'AM, JUST A SMALL DISAGREEMENT.
THANKS, BUDDY.
TAP








CHEEP
CHEEP

HEY, NOAH.
YEAH?
ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH...THE DEAD COUNT?
OF COURSE. IT'S THE MOST POPULAR EVENT IN THE WORLD.
SCRATCH
MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST TELL ME, KAI.
YEAH, BUT DO YOU KNOW WHY THOUGH?
I WOULD ASSUME THE TERRAGEL PRIZE.
WELL.. YEAH. BUT DO YOU KNOW WHY THOUGH?
IMAGINE, NOAH, IF WE WERE THOSE FEW VICTORIOUS IN THE END.
HISTORY HAS BEEN CHANGED JUST BY THE RESULTS OF THE DEAD COUNT. AND EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE A LOT OF TEAMS FIGHTING FOR THAT ONE CHANCE, ONLY ONE NATION CAN HOLD THEIR FISTS UP VICTORIOUS IN THE END.
THOSE WHO WIN GAIN A PLACE AT THE TOP USING THE TERRAGEL TO GREATLY INCREASE INDUSTRY AND NATIONAL STRENGTH. THEY EARN THE RIGHT TO STAND WITH THE GREATS.
DEAD COUNT
DEAD COUNT

You can't possibly mean entering the Dead Count? What about school??
STAND
U-us?
As Old American citizens, the only career waiting out there for us is as gatherers or out in the factories.
My father... deserved more. We deserve more.
School was not designed for the lower class, Noah.
3 years.
The entry age is 17. So we'll spend the next 3 years training like hell to get ready for it.
B-but, the Dead Count isn't a game! You could lose your life out there! Those people are trained fighters, Kai.
And not to mention we don't have the proper resources or training to go out there...Old America hasn't participated in almost 30 years..

IF WE WIN THE DEAD COUNT, OLD AMERICA CAN FIGHT TO BECOME IT'S OWN INDEPENDENT NATION!
JUST THINK OF ALL THE THINGS WE COULD CHANGE! NO MORE GOING TO NEW AMERICA SCHOOLS, WE CAN AFFORD TO MAKE EVEN BETTER OLD AMERICAN SCHOOLS!
OLD AMERICA WILL STAND TALL AS IT'S OWN GREAT NATION AND WE WILLENSURE A FUTURE FOR EVERYONE!

ROCK
SMILE

END.